

# *Potential Program Re-Focus*



Solar electric systems installed on the Navajo Reservation



# Potential Program Re-focus

Since 2002, DOE's Tribal Energy Program has funded 159 Tribal energy projects totaling \$36.0 million, leveraged by \$30.9 million in cost share (FY2012 awards pending).

Due to the relatively low funding level, the Program had focused on feasibility studies and planning grants primarily for renewable projects. In 2009, the funding opportunities were expanded to include energy efficiency (weatherization training, energy audits and retrofits).

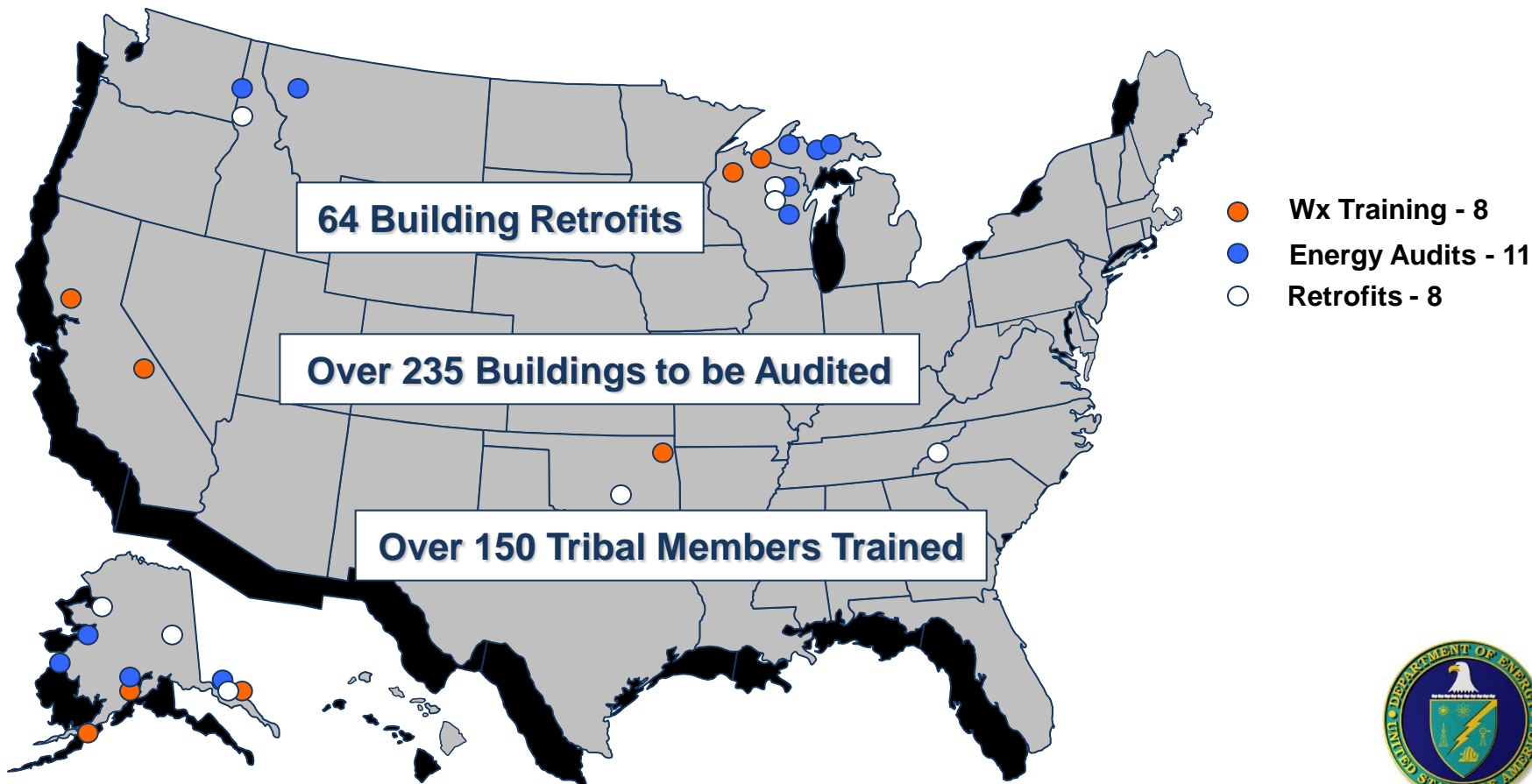
In the last 2 years, TEP has funded twenty-seven (27) energy efficiency and training grants.

The results.....



# Energy Efficiency & Wx Training Projects

**Goal of Reducing Building Energy Use by 30%**



# Potential Program Re-focus

To achieve a near-term reduction in energy use, the Program proposes to focus on community-scale clean energy (renewable and energy efficiency) projects, with emphasis on reducing building energy use by 30%.

By building on Recovery Act funded Tribal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) and the Tribal Energy Program project pipeline and capitalizing on inter-agency collaboration and the expanded Tribal network, the return on investment can be maximized.



# Potential Program Re-focus

## Rationale:

- Builds on \$53.2 million ARRA investment made through EECBG and capitalizes on the expanded Tribal network obtained through EECBG (535 Tribes and Alaska Regional Corporations funded)
  - EECBG funded over 2,129 building retrofits which could lead to substantial energy savings for years to come.
  - Leverages the ARRA investment by potentially implementing some of the 140 long-term energy strategies funded under EECBG, over 100 EECBG energy audit projects,
- Advances pipeline of projects created through TEP
  - Eight (8) TEP retrofit projects projected to save \$6 million over 10 years locally
  - Over 150 Tribal members trained under TEP Wx training projects
  - 64 buildings being audited through TEP funding
- Weatherization reduces the export of local energy dollars and keeps more money in the community, as evidenced by the successes of TEP and EECBG
- Maximizes the return on tax payer investment per dollar investment
  - Energy efficiency can return ~\$2.51 in benefits for every \$1 invested (Based on DOE Wx Program)
  - Every \$1 spent on efficiency saves at least as much as \$2 spent on renewables
  - It's easier and cheaper to save energy than produce energy – “The low hanging fruit”
- Existing buildings represent one of the best opportunities for immediate and cost-effective reductions in energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Total of 90,000 Native families are homeless or under-housed (U.S. Commission on Civil Rights)
  - Over 40 percent live in overcrowded or dilapidated housing. Basic infrastructure, including water, sewer and roads, are often severely inadequate. (Enterprise Foundation)
  - 40% on-reservation housing is Inadequate, compared to 6% Nationwide (U.S. Commission on Civil Rights)



# Potential Program Re-focus

## Concerns:

- Ability of the Tribes to meet the 50% cost share
  - Secretarial cost share waiver (drafted 2008 & 2009)
  - Change legislation (Amend EAct 2005)
- Limiting focus to community-scale potentially reduces a source of funds for large-scale renewable energy projects (more sources of funds, including industry investments)

## Seeking Panel Feedback

